

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Akira YONEOKA

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: JOINTING MEMBER

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

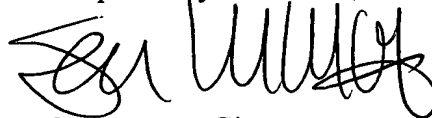
Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following document listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. A copy of the listed document is provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), the relevance of this document is discussed on page 2 of the subject application. Further, an English-language Abstract is attached to the reference.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 3/2/04
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

P21-163407M/NY

Application Number

Not Yet Assigned

Applicant(s)

Akira YONEOKA

Filing Date

Concurrently Herewith

Group Art Unit

Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation | |
|--|-----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | 8-334109 | 12/17/96 | Japan | | | ABS | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.